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SOURCE Ta Kung Pao.CCP SPECIFIES TREATMENT FOR RETURNING FUGITIVES

Shang-hai, 25 October (NCNA) -- The People's Liberation Army of the East China District has promulgated the following regulations governing the treatment of returning fugitives:

The returning fugitive may be defined as an individual, who, after the establishment of a People's government in his native territory, fled to Nationalist-held territory for political or criminal reasons but has now returned to his native home. A returning fugitive may be further defined as an individual who was influenced to return to his native territory by the succession of victories achieved by the People's Liberation Army, or who was compelled through personal reasons to return to the liberated areas.

Laborers, students, merchants, and others who lived in KMT-controlled areas prior to the establishment of a local People's government and who were formerly employed by the KMT Party, government, or armed forces, but who returned to their native villages, are not considered returning fugitives. Those conscripted by the Nationalist Army and not yet released are not considered returning fugitives and are not subject to these regulations.

A returning fugitive whose home is in a new district where land reformation has been placed into effect, and who is guilty of a serious crime, will have his land and property disposed of under the East China Provisional Regulations governing Rent Reduction in New Rural Districts. These regulations state that an individual who has obtained possession of land and property forcibly, whose actions have been reported, witnessed, and after investigation established as fact, shall lose this land and property which is to be returned to the original farmer or farmers. No remuneration shall be given the individual who took the land or property forcibly.

The land and property of landowners and old-type wealthy farmers which is not being used shall be controlled by the government. When the owner returns, the property and rent, after tax deduction, shall revert to the original owner.

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A returning fugitive whose home is in an established district, or whose effects has not been definitely apportioned among the local populace, may be allotted a portion of land for his livelihood, after he has publicly acknowledged his errors.

A returning middle-class farmer who has been classified unjustifiably as a returning fugitive shall be treated upon his return as a middle-class farmer. If his land has been unjustly disposed of, it should be returned to him.

Returning fugitives who bring back ammunition shall submit it to the local People's government for registration. If the People's government discovers that there is evidence that the individual is affiliated with special enemy activities, the individual shall be dealt with as a special enemy agent.

An individual who after fleeing was employed officially by the KMT, and then returned after the liberation of his native village, shall be treated as an independent worker. If it is discovered that this individual has committed a serious crime and is found guilty by the People's government, he shall be penalized in accordance with the degree of seriousness of his crime.

An individual who after returning enters into malicious activities, or allies himself with local bandits or special enemy agents, shall be dealt with by a public safety judicial organization in accordance with the degree of his crime.

After receiving from the People's government a verdict of "no penalty," "reduction of penalty," or "no evidence of crime," a returning fugitive shall have his life and property protected by the People's government and no person shall encroach upon the rights of such individuals. If at any time there is question as to the treatment or disposition made by the People's government, legal action may be taken by individuals against the People's government and a new verdict requested.

A returning fugitive who after legal procedure is found guilty, shall have his sentence pronounced by a Special Member of a Public Office or a higher office. If the maximum penalty is pronounced, approval must be obtained from the Provincial Administrative Public Office or a higher office in the People's government to carry out the sentence.

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